



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Assignee's Docket No.: 7204 )  
Group Art Unit: 2764 )  
Serial No.: 09/020,699 )  
Examiner: Chinor M. Lee )  
Filing Date: February 9, 1998 )  
Title: Method and Apparatus for )  
Determining the Validity )  
of a Data Processing )  
Transaction )

AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20232

Sir:

Please amend the following claim to read as indicated:

1. (Amended twice) A method of determining validity of a transaction carried out by a user at a data processing system, the method including the steps of:

- a) receiving a user identification card and a first entry of data from the user;
- b) checking the first entry of data against a first stored field of security data;
- c) issuing a message to the user which requests a subset entry, consisting of less than all characters of a second stored field of security data, and receiving [a second]

01/05/2000 MEASON 00000002 140225 09020699  
the subset entry [of data] from the user;

01 FC:102 78.00 CH

- d) checking the [second] subset entry [of data] against

CP 27-64  
#71B  
M.B  
12-29-99  
TECH CENTER 2600  
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U.S. POSTAL SERVICE  
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GREGORY A. WELTE